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MINUTES

of the

One Hundred Forty-Third

Annual Session

of the

Original Little River Primitive Baptist Association

Held With

GIFT CHURCH

Coats, North Carolina,

September 22, 23, 24,

1972

NEXT SESSION CONVENES WITH REHOBETH CHURCH, JOHNSON COUNTY, FRIDAY BEFORE THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER, 1973.

*** OFFICERS ***

Elder A. D. McGee, Route 1, Angier, N.C. . . . . Moderator
Brother L. B. Williams, Coats, N.C. . . . . Clerk
Brother C. Dixon Hamilton, Smithfield, N.C. . . . Ass't. Clerk

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Minutes

OF THE ONE HUNDRED FORTY THIRD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ORIGINAL LITTLE RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION HELD WITH GIFT CHURCH, COATS, N.C. SEPTEMBER 22, 23, 24, 1972.

Next session convenes with Rehobeth Church, Johnson County, Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1973.

FRIDAY MORNING

1. Meeting was opened with Praise and Prayer by Elder Worth Stephenson and the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder A. D. McGee. Text - John 17:1.

2. After a short recess the Brethren came together and after Praise and Prayer by Brother Ronnie Lawrence the Association was organized by choosing Elder A. D. McGee, Moderator. Brother L. B. Williams was chosen Clerk who called to his assistance Brother C. Dixon Hamilton.

3. Brethren Gerald Lawrence, J. T. Williams, J. S. Stephenson, Z. M. Stephenson, were appointed a committee on finance.

4. Calls for letters composing the Association were handed in, read, and contents noted in statistical table. (See table)

5. On motion all Messengers were seated and the Association declared organized and ready business as might come before it.

6. Calls for petitionary letters.

7. Then calls were made for Corresponding Messengers and visitors from Sister Associations.

ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK: Elders D. B. Willard, W. M. Benton, Newell Helms, H. L. Poplin, E. H. Simpson, Charlie Smith, W. C. Mintz. Brethren Bill Curlie and wife, Truby High and wife, Wilbur Mills and wife, W. S. Waldon and wife, Oren Baucom and wife and many others.

LITTLE RIVER OF GEORGIA: Elder James Pruitt, Brother Jerry Kelly.

MOUNT ZION OF ALABAMA: Elder E. B. Watts, Brother H. T. Watts.

Visitors from Associations and Churches with whom we are not in direct correspondence: Elders Gene F. Watson & wfie, Orvin Huffman, Elas Randall, Jr., R. W. Turner & wife, T. E. Majors & wife, Frank McCarty, W. L. Gardner, Ray White, Licentiate Donnie Conner, Cleon McIntyre & wife, Brother Sam Hartley & wife, Ray Chasin & wife, Johnny Freeman & wife.

8. Called on Messengers to report who agreed to attend corresponding Associations.

ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK: Elders J. S. Stephenson, Worth Stephenson, A. D. McGee, Brethren Council Williams, S. F. Lawrence, Ronnie Lawrence, Johnnie Boykin, Many others.

LITTLE RIVER OF GEORGIA: Elders A. D. McGee, Worth Stephenson, and others.

MOUNT ZION OF ALABAMA: Brethren Ronnie Lawrence, Tommy Dupree.

9. Appointment of Messengers to Corresponding Associations were as follows:

ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK: Elders Worth Stephenson, J. S. Stephenson, A. D. McGee, Brethren Tommy Dypree, Gerald Lawrence. And many others.

LITTLE RIVER OF GEORGIA: Elders Worth Stephenson, A. D. McGee, S. F. Lawrence, Ronnie Lawrence.

MOUNT ZION OF ALABAMA: Elders A. D. McGee, Worth Stephenson, J. S. Stephenson, Brethren Ronnie Lawrence, Gerald Lawrence.

10. Agreed that a committee on finance take charge of the minutes from sisters Associations and prepare for proper distribution to this association.

11. Brethren Jack Hall, Ronnie Lawrence, W. G. Pope, Worth Stephenson were appointed a committee on preaching arrangements for the remainder of this session.

12. Agreed that our next session be held with Rehobeth Church, Johnson County, to begin on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in September, 1973 and to continue three days.

Elder J. S. Stephenson was appointed to preach the introductory sermon, with Elder Worth Stephenson as his alternate. Worship to begin at 11:00 a.m.

13. Agreed to adjourn until Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Benediction by Elder Joe Helms.

SATURDAY MORNING

14. The Association met according to adjournment and was opened with praise and prayer by Bro. Seba Clifton. Whereas the association resumed business.

15. Again called for petitionary letters.

16. Again called for messengers from corresponding associations.

17. Then called for report from finance which were as follows:

RECEIPTS:

Received from churches	$611.00
Received from friends	491.05
TOTAL	$1102.05

DISBURSEMENTS:

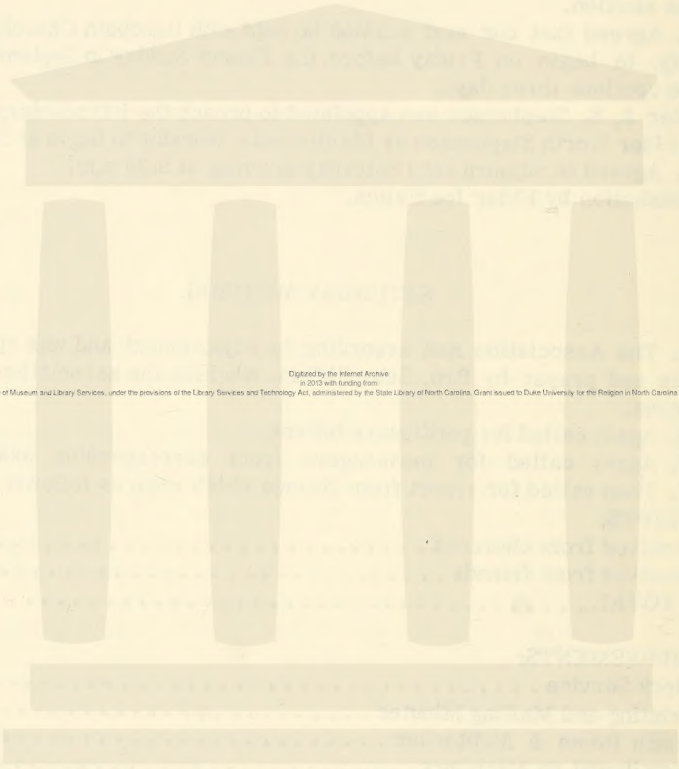
Clerk Service	$ 25.00
Printing and Mailing Minutes	75.00
Lunch Room & Auditorium	91.25
Distributed to Ministers	910.80
Balance on Hand	None

18. Agreed that the balance of funds left in the hands of the finance committee after deducting the usual expenses be distributed among the ministers.

19. Ordered the Clerk to transcribe and superintend the printing of the minutes of this session and to have 300 copies printed and to distribute them among the several churches proportionate with the membership entering a copy of the same upon the permanent record of this Association.

20. The Clerk is ordered to give sufficient notice of the time and place of the next associational session with all necessary information pertaining thereto.

21. Agreed to extend thanks to Gift Church, Coats School Personel, Brethren, Sisters and Friends and surrounding community for their kind-



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ness shown in supporting the Association during this session.

22. On motion the corresponding letter written by David Stephenson was called for, read and approved. Brother Tommy Dupree was appointed to write the corresponding letter for the next session.

23. Agreed to adjourn until Sunday Morning at 10:00 a.m.

Elder A. D. McGee, Moderator
L. B. Williams, Clerk

CORRESPONDING LET

The one hundred and forty-third [illegible] of the Original Little River Primitive Baptist Association now convening at Gift Church in Coats, North Carolina extends greetings to [illegible] churches in this association and to our visitors from other associations [illegible] churches.

We wish to welcome you in true love and fellowship of the Lord. We have had many visitors over the years from several states and hope this to continue over the years to come. If I know my heart and the desire of membership of this association, I can truthfully say, we want to serve our God in every way we can. Written in love and hope in Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

David Stevens

HOME MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Elder J. S. Stephenson, Stewart St., Box 1008, Fuquay-Varina, N. C.
Elder Worth Stephenson, Stewart St., Fuquay-Varina, N.C.
Elder A. D. McGee, Route 1, Angier, N.C.
Elder Ralph Clifton, Route 1, Smithfield, N.C.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF VISITING MINISTERS

Elder D. B. Willard, Route 6, Winston-Salem, N.C.
Elder W. M. Benton, Route 1, Box 140, Leland, N.C.
Elder Newell Helms, Route 2, Box 272, Monroe, N.C.
Elder H. L. Poplin, Route 2, Albermarle, N.C.
Elder Joe Helms, Peachland, N.C.
Elder E. H. Simpson, Route 4, Concord, N.C.
Elder Charles Smith, 402 West Street, Monroe, N.C.
Elder W. C. Mintz, P.O. Box 324, Little River, S.C.
Elder Gene Watson, 145 Friendly Park, Lenoir, N.C.
Elder Orvin Huffman, P.O. Box 1776, Ashville, N.C.
Elder E. B. Watts, P.O. Box 425, Douglas, Ala.
Elder James Pruitt, Route 5, Alpharetta, Ga.
Elder Elas Randall, 3265 McEvoy Drive, Macon, Ga.
Elder R. W. Turner, 232 East View Dr., Collinsville, Va.
Elder T. E. Majors, 207 Cloud St., Front Royal, Va.
Elder Frank McCarty, 4914 Atterbury, Norfolk, Va.
Elder W. L. Gardner, Hillsville, Va.
Elder Ray White, 123 , 2nd St., Pulaski, Va.
Licentiate Donnie A. Conner, Route 1, Fields, Va.
Licentiate Cleon McIntyre, 109 Moore Ave. S. E., Vienna, Va.

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY MORNING:
Elder A. D. McGee, Text - John 17-1.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:
Elder T. E. Majors, Text - Rom. 10:6.
Elder Joe Helms, Failed to get Text.

FRIDAY NIGHT:
Elder Frank McCarty, Isa. 53:8-12.
Elder Watts, Failed to get text.

SATURDAY MORNING:
Elder Orvin Huffman, Thes. 3:1.
Elder Joe Helms, 2nd. Peter 3:1.
Elder R. W. Turner, Heb. 4:7.
Elder Elas Randall, Col. 1:1.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON:
Elder Gene Watson, Acts 9:1.
Elder Newell Helms, Heb. 11:1.
Elder James Pruitt, No special text.
Elder Homer Poplin, Heb. 11:1.

SATURDAY NIGHT:
Elder Cleon McIntyre, Psalms 103:1.
Licentiate Donnie Conner, Isiah 9:1.
Elder W. M. Benton, St. John 5:1.

SUNDAY MORNING:
Elder W. L. Gardner, Psalms 23:1.
Elder Charles Smith, Matthew 14:15.
Elder E. H. Simpson, 2 Tim. 1:10.

Elder D. B. Willard, No special text.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON:
Elder W. C. Mintz, Failed to get text.
Elder J. R. White, Acts 26:4.
Elder E. B. Watts, Failed to get text.

TIME AND PLACE OF HOLDING COMMUNION MEETINGS WITH PASTORS NAMES

SALEM: Pastor, Elder Worth Stephenson, third Sunday and Saturday before in August 11:00 A.M.
GIFT: Pastor, Elder A. D. McGee, thrid Sunday and Saturday before in July. Saturday 2:30 P.M. and Sunday 11:00 A.M.
REHOBETH: Pastor, Elder J. S. Stephenson, fourth Sunday and Saturday before in May. Meeting 11:00 A.M.
ANGIER: Pastor, Elder Worth Stephenson, second Sunday and Saturday

before in July. Saturday 7:30 P.M. and Sunday 11:00 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP: No pastor at this time. Sunday and Saturday before in August. Saturday 7:30 P.M. and Sunday 11:00 A.M.

SMITHFIELD: Pastor, Elder J. S. Stephenson, first Sunday and Saturday before in July 11:00 A.M.

LITTLE FLOCK: Pastor Elder A. D. McGee, second Sunday and Saturday before in June 11:00 A.M.

HONEYCUTTS-REQUEST: Pastor, Elder J. S. Stephenson, second Sunday and Saturday before in Aug. 3:00 P.M.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches in the Little River Association, who shall be members supposed to be the best qualified for that purpose, and those producing letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats in the Association, provided they shall not violate the rules of the Constitution.

2. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed the number received by experience and baptism, the number received by letter, the number dismissed by letter, the number excommunicated, and those who died since the last Association was held.

3. Members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated The Little River Primitive Baptist Association.

4. The Association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

5. The Association shall have a Moderator and a Clerk, who shall be chosen by members composing it; the Moderator to be chosen annually at each Association; the Clerk to continue in office during his pleasure and the pleasure of the Association.

6. New churches may be admitted into the union by a written petition, presented by messengers, with letters, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, it may be manifested by the Moderator giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

7. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association but shall have only three messengers from each church.

8. Every query presented by any messenger in the Association shall be read and before it shall be debated, the Moderator shall put it to a vote as to whether or not it shall be debated, and if a majority votes for debating, the query shall be debated; otherwise the query must be withdrawn.

9. Every motion made by any messenger, which receives a second, shall be considered by the Association, unless it be withdrawn, by the messenger offering it.

10. The Association shall furnish the churches in the union with Minutes of its proceedings.

11. We believe it to be absolutely necessary to have a fund for defraying the necessary expenses of the Association and recommend that each church composing it voluntarily contribute such sum as they think proper, and send by their messengers to the Association, which money shall be placed in the hands of the Clerk, who shall account for the same and pay it out as directed by the Association.

12. The Clerk shall have a book wherein shall be recorded the proceedings of each Association, as well as a record of the dates of each Association and when Associations are held at the different churches in the union, for which he shall receive a yearly compensation.

13. The Association shall provide for the general union of churches, and shall preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the same; shall give churches all necessary advice when called upon to do so; shall inquire into the cause of failure on part of any church not represented at each Association; shall appropriate the money contributed by the church for Associational fund to any purpose it deems proper; may appoint any member or members by and with their consent, to transact any business connected with the Association; shall have power to withdraw from any church composing the union, which violates the rules of the Association or deviates from the orthodox principles of faith.

14. Visiting brethren may be invited to assist in the Association in every way except to vote.

15. Amendments may be made to this form of government at any time, by a majority vote.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and approved and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in the being of God, as almighty, eternal, unchangeable, of infinite wisdom, justice, power, holiness, goodness, mercy, and truth and that this God has revealed Himself in His Word under the character of Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that Almighty God has made known His mind and will to the children of men in His Word, which Word we believe to be of divine authority and contains all things necessary to be known for the salvation of man. The same is comprehended or contained in the books of the Old and New Testaments.

3. We believe that God, before the foundation of the word, for a purpose in His own glory, did elect a certain number of men and angels to eternal life, and that this election is particularly, eternal and unconditional on the creature's part.

4. We believe that when God made man he was good and upright, but by his own transgressions he fell from the good and upright state, and being the head representative of the whole human race, they being his natural offspring, he involved all of them in the same ruined state with himself, and they were partakers of, and exposed to the miseries which sprang from his disobedience.

5. We believe that it is utterly out of the power of man, as a fallen creature, to keep the law of God perfectly or to repent truly of his sins, or believe in Christ, except he be drawn by the Holy Spirit.

6. We believe in God's own appointed time, and way, the elect will be called, justified, pardoned and sanctified, and that it is impossible that they can utterly refuse the call, but shall be willing by divine grace to receive mercy.

7. We believe that justification in the sight of God is only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, received and applied by faith.

8. We believe that those that are called by grace and born again will persevere in holiness and never fall finally away.

9. We believe it to be a duty incumbent on all God's people to walk religiously in all good works, not in the old covenant way of seeking life and favor of the Lord by it, but only as a duty from a principle of love.

10. We believe baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, both belonging to the converted or true believer.

11. We believe that every church is independent in matters of discipline, and that Associations, councils, and conferences of ministers or churches, are not to impose on the church, the keeping, holding or maintaining of any principle or practice contrary to the church's judgment.

12. We believe in the general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, and a final judgment.

13. We believe the punishment of the wicked is everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

14. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances unless called and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator in beginning of his speech.

3. Every brother speaking shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration, and shall in no way reflect on any other brother.

4. No messenger shall absent himself from the Association while in conference without permission.

5. No messenger shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission from the Association.

6. Messengers shall keep strict order while the business of the Association is being transacted.

7. No messenger shall be interrupted while speaking unless he violates the Rules of Decorum.

8. No messenger shall address another in other term or appellation than the title of "brother".

9. The names of members composing the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as the Association requires.

10. The Moderator shall not speak on any question before the Association until the other members are through speaking, when he may give his views; after which any member having a right to speak, may reply to any matter introduced by the Moderator.

11. Any member who shall violate any rule of the Association shall be dealt with by the Association as it deems proper.

CHURCHES	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	MESSENGERS	Annual or Com.	Sun. of Meeting	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Baptism	Restored to Fel.	Dis'd by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Contribution	Last Session of Association
SALEM	Willard Atkinson Rt. 1, Garner, N.C.	J. W. Atkinson, John Pittman, Johnnie Boykin	Aug.	3		2					19	50.00	1971
GIFT	L. B. Williams Coats, N. C.	L. B. Williams, Jack Hall, Z. M. Stephenson	July	3		1			2	2	81	155.00	1972
REHOBETH	Tommy Dupree Rt. 1. Angier, N. C.	Tommy Dupree, Willie Clifton, A. D. McGee,	Aug.	4					2	1	57	80.00	1965
ANGIER	Ronald Lawrence Holliman Rd, Durham, N. C.	Joe Collins, Gerald Lawrence, Strokes Lawrence	June	2	2	3					37	116.00	1966
FELLOWSHIP	Seba Clifton Rt. 3, Benson, N. C.	Seba Clifton	Aug.	1						1	2	10.00	1967
SMITHFIELD	Chester Hamilton Smithfield, N.C.	Dixon Hamilton, Bobby Hamilton, Chester Hamilton	July	1						1	25	75.00	1968
LITTLE FLOCK	J. B. Pope Rt. 2, Angier, N. C.	J. B. Pope, Callie Pollard, Hoyt Pollard	June	2							10	70.00	1969
HONEYCUTT'S REQUEST	J. B. Pope (Pro Tem) Rt. 2, Angier, N.C.	Represented by Church Body	Aug.	2						1	8	55.00	1970

Received from Churches $611.00
Received from Friends 491.05
Total Receipts $1102.05
Total Membership 239

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